

4 May 1954

The Honorable William Langer
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I have received your letter of 3 May 1954 inviting me or a representative of this Agency to express our views regarding S. J. Res. 39 at a hearing of your Committee on 5 May.

S. J. Res. 39 involves the functioning of the Congress in time of national emergency or disaster, and is therefore a matter of the internal organization of the Congress. Insofar as this relates to the internal security of the United States it would appear to be inappropriate for this Agency to testify on S. J. Res. 39 as we are specifically prohibited by Section 102(d)(3) of the National Security Act of 1947 from any internal security functions.

Naturally in carrying out our intelligence and related functions, we are keeping the appropriate governmental officials informed of all intelligence which we obtain pertaining to any menaces to our national security originating abroad.

In view of the legal restrictions mentioned above, I do not believe it would be appropriate for this Agency to testify in connection with the proposed resolution. It would be appreciated if a representative of the Agency could be present so that if any matters within our prescribed duties might be directly or indirectly involved, I would be promptly advised with a view to rendering such assistance to your Committee as would be appropriate in the circumstances.

OGC:WLP/blc (4May 54)
Rewritten: AWD:hea

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Allen W. Dulles

Director

Office

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In view of the legal prohibition expressed above, I trust that you will excuse me from testimony in connection with S. J. Res. 39.

Respectfully yours,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

WLP 4/29/54 A/H
OGC:WLP/blc (4 May 54)
Orig. & 1 - Addressee
1 - Sen. Wm. Knowland
1 - Mr. Hyde (Bur. of Budget)
3 - Signer ✓
1 - Legislative Counsel
1 - OGC W/bas